

## The Times-Dispatch.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1903.

### CHILD LABOR.

There seems to be no objection either in or out of the Legislature to the proposal to prohibit by law factories from working children under twelve years of age. We understand that the factory-owners generally are willing that a bill with this restriction shall pass. It would be a distinct step gained to get a law which goes even that far, but such a law will not meet the situation. We are in favor of the Cabell bill, which seems to us to be entirely reasonable. Section I. of that bill provides absolutely that no child under the age of twelve years shall be employed or permitted to labor for compensation in any mill, factory or manufacturing establishment in this State. But the bill goes farther and extends its protection under certain conditions to children over twelve and under fourteen years of age. Section II. provides:

"That no child under the age of fourteen years shall be employed or permitted to labor for compensation, in any mill, factory, or manufacturing establishment in this State, during the session of the public schools or in any city or town or municipal district in the county in which said child resides; provided, that any child over the age of twelve and under the age of fourteen years may make application to the judge of the Corporation Court of the city, or to the superintendent of the public schools of the town or city, or to any public school trustee of the county in which the child resides for a permit to labor, which permit shall be granted upon satisfactory proof to said judge, superintendent of the public school, or school trustee, that said child can read and write simple sentences in the English language or that the labor of such child is absolutely necessary for the support of himself or family or any member thereof, but no such child shall be permitted to labor in any such mill, factory or manufacturing establishment between the hours of seven o'clock and six o'clock."

One of the most serious objections urged against the child labor bill is that in some instances children must work in order to support themselves or helpless parents. But the Cabell bill meets that objection by providing that any child over the age of twelve and under the age of fourteen may make application to the judge of the Corporation Court of the city, or to the superintendent of the public schools of the town or city, or to any public school trustee of the county in which the child resides for a permit to labor, which permit shall be granted upon satisfactory proof.

But there is another provision in this clause which is wise and disciplinary. Children over twelve and under fourteen are permitted to work if they have already received a primary education and this will act as a stimulus to parents to send their little children to school. The bill prohibits the factories from employing children under twelve years of age, therefore even the most sordid parents, if for no other motive, would send their little children to school and have them taught in order that they might obtain for them a working certificate after they had passed the age of twelve.

It may be argued and is argued that such a law in Virginia would cripple the manufacturing business. But in a question like this such an argument is not to be considered. The Times-Dispatch is in favor of material progress and industrial development, but first of all it is in favor of mental and moral progress, and of the physical, mental and moral development of children. The wealth of this State is not in its factories or its banks, or its railroads, but in its people. They are and must be our riches, for all our wealth is dependent upon the physical, mental and moral health of our people. To grind the life out of the children is as foolish a policy, even from an economic point of view, as to cut the young corn or to gather the unripe fruit. The children of Virginia have the God-given right to an education. They have the right to go to school, and while we are not in favor of compulsory education, we are in favor of preventing factories from grinding up this immature material.

First of all, this question is to be considered in its moral aspect, as are all questions of legislation, but even taking the most sordid view, we say that it is the best sort of business policy to develop the children of the land in body and mind and spirit and fit them as well as possible for the serious work of life. Childhood is the time of preparation. It is the golden opportunity of improvement which once lost is lost forever.

Let Virginia look upon her little sons and daughters and say with the mother of the Gracchi: "These are my jewels."

### TILLMAN'S ARROGANCE.

A citizen of Westport, Pa., makes public a letter which he recently received from Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, from which we make the following extract: "All the newspapers of the North are more or less under the control of the corporations and trusts, and these agencies have given orders that my reputation and character must be blackened in every conceivable way, as they dread my influence. Hence the flood of denunciation and slander which has been belched forth recently, and which has been turned loose ever since I entered the Senate, with only a brief period of intermission. It is the way of the plutocracy to destroy any champion of popular rights and justice to the masses."

We have not seen a more disgusting ex-

hibition than this of egotism and vulgarity, not even from Senator Tillman. The trusts have bought up the Northern papers and ordered them to train their guns on this great statesman and champion of the people because they fear him. Was the like of that ever heard? Surely Mr. Tillman is run mad with egotism and a sense of his own importance. He does not seem to realize that there is a difference between fame and notoriety. He takes himself too seriously. Northern newspapers criticize him, not because they are afraid of him, but because he is forever making a spectacle of himself. Southern newspapers discredit him because they are unwilling that he should parade himself as the representative of Southern principles and Southern manners.

There are many other Southern men in Congress who have championed the rights of the people and who have lifted their voices upon every occasion against the insolence of wealth and the arrogance of corporations, but these men have not been denounced as Mr. Tillman has been denounced, because they have always conducted themselves as Southern gentlemen. Senator Tillman has offered an affront to each and every one of them in setting himself up as the special champion of the rights of the people, and therefore as the special object of attack. They are as true as men could be to the rights and interests of their constituents, and they have the courage to speak when occasion demands. But they do it with dignity and not with buffoonery, and they enjoy the respect and confidence even of their opponents.

### WHAT WOULD GEN. LEE SAY?

In his eloquent speech yesterday in behalf of the proposal to place a statue of Robert E. Lee in the National Capitol, Senator Halsey said: "I consider this an opportune time for Virginia to accept the invitation, so long held out to her by the Federal Government, and place in the National Hall, by the side of her Washington, the statue of him whom she deems to be her peer, and the fittest of all her sons for this high distinction, thereby showing her good feeling towards the reunited nation of which she is a part."

If the Federal Government should invite Virginia to place a bust of General Lee in Statuary Hall, we should be in favor of accepting the invitation. But no such invitation has been extended, and if the proposition were brought up in Congress to-day, it would probably be defeated. Certain it is that many members would vote against it. It would not be agreeable to the people as a whole to have the statue there; to many of them it would be an offense.

General Lee would never have gone where he was not wanted, and if he were alive to-day he would beg Senator Halsey and all the members of the Legislature, generous as are their motives, not to put his statue where it was not welcome.

We cannot get over the idea that some of the northern people would think that Virginia was trying to force General Lee upon them, trying to "honor him" by placing his statue in Washington. For our part we are unwilling that any northern man shall have the opportunity and the pleasure of saying such a thing. Further than that, we do not think that it would be any honor to General Lee to have his statue in Statuary Hall.

### CO-EDUCATION A FAILURE.

In the current number of the Independent, Henry T. Finck, a prominent writer and educator, asserts that co-education is a failure, and in support of his assertion points to recent utterances by such eminent educators as Presidents Eliot, Hall, Huxley, James and Jordan, and to the fact that the Western Reserve University and the Chicago University have retreated from their former position.

It may not be practicable to educate young men and young women in the same institution, and experience seems to show that it is not. But that does not touch the main question. The women of this day and generation, or many of them at least, are seeking higher education, and they are entitled to the same facilities that the men enjoy. Most of the States are expending large sums of money in providing the means of higher education for the boys, and this money is largely provided at the public expense. That is all right, but the girls are entitled to the same privileges, and sooner or later they will get their share. It is scarcely less than a public outrage that so much public money is expended in this direction in the interest of one sex and so little in the interest of the other. In the State of Virginia we have our University, our Military Institute, our manual training schools and other institutions for the benefit of the boys, and only one normal school, and that poorly equipped and not beginning to meet the demands upon it, for the girls. This is an injustice to the girls and to their parents, who are taxed from year to year to support the public institutions named. The time is coming, if it is not already at hand, when the State must do a great deal more than it is doing for the girls, for the tax-payers will demand it. More than that, the women will demand it, and they are the great force in Virginia.

### THE RED-HEADED GIRL.

A New York man advises for a red-headed girl to do duty as stenographer. He claims that auburn hair gives a genial glow to his office and lights up the gloom. This, he declares, is no idle fancy. He was taught by a red-haired woman, and he married a red-haired woman, and he has never had any but a red-headed girl in his office. He insists upon being surrounded by red-headed assistants. He says there is a mysterious connection between the hair and the brain. He believes the vitality of the hair affects the brain cells, and red-haired persons are geniuses, either gramme or stenographic.

Good for the philosopher. The red-headed girl is all right. She reminds one of the sunshine. She may be a little fiery, but she is generous. She stands up for her right, but she respects the rights of others. We always said she would have her inning, and she is getting it. Recently a theatrical manager advertised for a small army of red-heads to do duty on the stage. We are glad that true merit is at last recognized.

The Inspector of Buildings of Balti-

more has condemned as unsafe the old shot tower, which stands at the corner of Front and Fayette Streets, and is a landmark in the Monumental City. But his conclusion is antagonized by a number of architects. The presence of cracks in the tower, which is 245 feet high, is too patent to be denied, but these architects say the cracks have existed for twenty-five years and have not widened during that time.

However that may be, many people living in the neighborhood in question are alarmed and a further and more searching inquiry probably will have to be made to satisfy the public.

A long, long time ago Richmond, too, had a shot-tower. It stood on the square where St. Paul's Church now is, but somewhat to the westward of the church lot. There was a fine spring near the base of the tower, which was known as the "shot-tower spring." The waters of which in later years were piled to the paper mill.

Many of the Northern papers are prompt to say that Mr. Hanna's ("by request") bill to pension ex-slaves is likely to do the negroes more harm than good. They recall the fact that some years ago Senator Mason introduced a similar bill, which was made the means of swindling thousands of negroes out of sums usually amounting to \$2 each. The swindlers represented to the negroes of the South that the bill would surely pass and that each ex-slave who wished to avail himself of the proposed pension must register.

We learn from the Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune that the swindling concern, which was composed of educated negroes, was reported to have collected \$300,000 before the use of the malls was denied it. Its promoter was arrested, but escaped upon a technicality.

It is presumed that Mr. Hanna had not heard of the Mason bill when he consented to introduce his, and it is supposed he will be well enough content now to let his own bill die in committee.

The friends and advocates of popular education in North Carolina have made a mistake in permitting Professor Charles L. Coon, superintendent of the Salisbury graded schools, to leave the State. Professor Coon has tendered his resignation to accept work with the Southern Education Board, and his home will be in Tennessee. Professor Coon is one of the most progressive school men in North Carolina, or in the South, as far as that matter. He took charge of the Salisbury schools when they were at a low stage, and by his energy and intelligent management he has made them efficient and the pride of the State. North Carolina ought to keep such men as Professor Coon.

The New York Board of Elections is soon to begin a series of somewhat costly tests of voting machines. The object of the tests is to find and eventually to put into operation in the city on election days "the most practical machine in the world." Invitations have been sent out to all inventors and manufacturers of voting machines to send in samples of their voting apparatus. This is supposed to be New York's despairing, and perhaps last, effort at insuring honest city elections.

When all the territories become States we will have to begin to chop up Texas and a few of the other thinly settled big States to make more territories to become States.

The North Carolina Legislature has only a few more anti-liquor propositions before it than has the Virginia Legislature.

The February thunderstorms have arrived to support the ground hog in the effort to dislocate the spinal column of old winter.

Some day in the not far distant future, some Senator is going to arise and let Mr. Quay know that he is not the whole thing.

St. Louis has sent a bogus Lord to work on the rock pile. St. Louis has her hand in now, having practiced some on her boodling Aldermen.

Bank robbers are trying to dispose of some of the surplus of the Illinois banks. There have been eight such robberies in that State within a month.

Danville had a hanging yesterday, and has at least two more arranged for. Danville is determined to have less lawlessness within her boundaries.

Carrie Nation now informs the public that she is a descendant of the Duke of Argyll. Quite a tumble, we should say, for which the Duke cannot be held accountable.

Minister Bowen talks as if he has personally taken the census of those 10,553,356 men available for military duty in this country.

If Dr. Parkhurst can run a sensationless newspaper, it will be the only thing he ever ran that way.

By the way, Cairo does not seem to be worrying about this thing as much as Bowen, Wilhelm and Edwards.

What a hilarious time King Edward has been having with General Miles and Sousa.

Olney and Montague would sound all right after we had time to get used to it.

The Olney boom is in danger of being nipped by the spring frosts.

The Watbury riots necessitated more Watbury watchmen.

The Minnesota anti-kissing bill is just a little more anti than Dr. Ware's.

The Elkins bill is not a trust buter to hurt anybody.

With a Comment or Two.

Without discussing the merits of the dispensary system, we will say that both the temperance and liquor people are unnecessarily alarmed over the Claytor bill. The passage of this bill, as we

understand it, does not necessarily mean any more or any fewer dispensaries than we now have, but it is simply a general dispensary law—Burlak Herald.

That's correct. If the bill becomes a law no county or city will have a dispensary forced upon them. The people will vote on the question first, as they do on prohibition.

What is the use of a pure election law? Can't Virginians be depended upon to conduct fair elections without a law to force them to be honest?—Clifton Forge Review.

Here is another example of sweet, childlike innocence.

The Virginia Legislature is considering the system of a State dispensary, invented by South Carolina, for combating the evils of the liquor traffic. Under the dispensary system the State alone sells intoxicating liquors in packages of from a half pint to four gallons, which may not be drunk on the premises of sale and can be sold only in the day time.—Houston (Texas) Post.

But the Virginia proposition is so different from the South Carolina law there can be no comparison. Ours may be termed, if it ever becomes law, a local option dispensary law, not a State dispensary.

"The man who never saw a railroad train" will soon have to hide in a cave if he remains in the United States, or one will run over him.—Montgomery Advertiser.

And yet freight blockaders are hinder-business. We need more roads yet.

A Washington lobbyist has been caught at last. Now, let us have an example, and when the law is vindicated, the members of Congress may have a little peace.—Florida Times-Union.

Do you imagine that all the members of Congress are very anxious to seek that particular brand of peace?

North Carolina Sentiment.

The Winston Sentinel expresses this sentiment:

"Popular sentiment amongst the ladies is the only legislation that will ever remove picture hats in public gatherings. Senator Baldwin to the contrary notwithstanding."

The Mount Airy News is not much disturbed about the doings of the President. It dismisses the whole business thus:

"It is said that the Northern people do not like the President's social equality capers at the White House. Of course, the people of the South don't like it. Perhaps President Roosevelt knows his business—he ought to."

The Greenville Reflector says:

"North Carolina postoffices are giving the government nearly as much trouble as is handed out to a bottled mule in Ky-tine."

The Wilmington Star mildly warns Southerners as follows:

"It is said that twenty-six Democratic Senators will oppose the Cuban treaty. We do not know how many of these are Southern Senators from the region, but they had better be careful how they drive the Cubans out of sugar into cotton cultivation."

The old North State is stirred up from center to circumference over temperance legislation. The Charlotte Observer sums up the present situation thus:

"By a large majority—15 to 4—the House committee of the Legislature on temperance legislation has recommended favorably the Aycock-Simmons-Watts anti-liquor bill. This is the first knockout for the Morally Stunted. The bill will doubtless pass, and then will come up the London bill, which in effect provides for State prohibition. This will not have such smooth sailing, and it is likely that it will be materially modified before it becomes a law, but the Pure in Heart are certainly giving the Morally Stunted a run for their money about now. It would be funny if they should get a law under which they couldn't get any saw-paw themselves."

The Weldon News gives us this view of the situation:

"In the halls of the Legislature petitions are pouring in asking for temperance legislation. The Watts bill appears to be the one that is most popular. This bill provides that there can be no saloon outside of incorporated towns, and it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to manufacture, sell or otherwise dispose of any spirituous vinous or malt liquors within the State of North Carolina outside of incorporated cities and towns."

The Raleigh Times says:

"For our part we cannot place much credit in the sensational story printed in the New York Journal about the discovery of the real murderer of Miss Cropsey. The Journal is more noted for its sensations than its reliability, and this alleged disclosure should probably be classed among the former."

Short Talks to the Legislature.

Fredericksburg Star: "Virginia doesn't want any dispensary law. Her people may desire some change or changes in her liquor laws, but if they were to go and undertake an 'association with liquor' they are on the wrong track if they expect to produce such results through State or county dispensaries."

We trust the law-makers will take time to consider the subject thoroughly before they undertake to throw the Old Dominion into the liquor business.

Abingdon Virginian: And now a member of the General Assembly from Lynchburg wants to raise the legislative pay from \$1 to \$5 a day. If this is for what they are going to do rather than what they have done, we say raise it and give the State a liberal rebate for past services.

Norfolk Ledger: If Virginia should turn down the Jamestown Exposition appropriation it would be a unique event in history—a State lowering out the gas on itself.

Salem Times-Register: Between the various bills now before the Legislature on the liquor question some of the members might be excused for "seeing things" at times.

Farmville Herald: Gentlemen of the Legislature, the people of Virginia expect you to do your work thoroughly and well if "it takes all summer."

Norfolk Virginian-Pilot: The members of the Legislature considering the Barksdale pure-elections bill should remember that it cannot be ex post facto in its operation.

Remarks About Richmond.

Farmville Herald: A representative and ally of Richmond was heard to say recently "association with liquor." Wise had spelt a lither good and reputable negro. "Dubbing him 'Emmett' will not compensate for the ruin wrought."

Newport News Press: The appeal case of Richmond's ex-Alderman, who was convicted in the Police Court of "boodling," is resting peacefully on the bosom of the poet, murmuring anon in its slumber, "Please go 'way and let me sleep."

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## Trend of Thought In Dixie Land

Columbus Enquirer-Sun: President Roosevelt undoubtedly has Georgia blood in his veins, but as it is something Georgia could not help, there is no reason for our taking it bitterly to heart.

Nashville News: A national memorial to Thomas Jefferson is proposed by the Jefferson Memorial Association, of which Admiral Dewey is president. This is a worthy movement, and it is strange that it should have been neglected so long. The people of the United States can well afford to show in this outward manner some part of their appreciation of the services of Thomas Jefferson.

Florida Times-Union: Of course, the Senate should confirm the Panama treaty, but the same might have been said as to other treaties now receding in pigeon-holes.

Birmingham News: Lee and Davis in the North and Grant and Lincoln in the South are loved and revered for the qualities of mind and character that shed a glory upon all the American nation, regardless of section. A few weeds may still flourish, but the lines between the sections are becoming effaced beneath the flowering of the forget-me-nots.

New Orleans Times-Democrat: Congress would do well to devote the balance of the present session to passing the naval appropriation bill and the authorization of substantial additions to the fleet. It might not be a bad thing also to authorize the purchase of the two Chilian battleships now nearing completion in England, which, it is understood, are for sale. They are fine vessels and would greatly strengthen our fleet.

Chattanooga Times: The Elkins "anti-trust" bill was so innocent a thing that the Senate passed it without debate or division. Whether it gets through the House or falls, nobody cares, for it's of no account, only to give the restless and small politician whose name it bears a momentary notoriety.

### Personal and General.

A clause in the liquor law which recently became operative in Copenhagen, is interesting. The publican who sells the "last glass" resulting in drunkenness is compelled to pay for a conveyance to take the culprit home, for any damage he may do, and for medical attendance, if necessary.

Booth Tarkington, the writer and member of the Indiana Legislature, has again narrowly escaped having new honors thrust upon him, and in this instance his escape was not experienced without some humiliation. The City Engineer of Irvington, Ind., had planned to change the name of Maple Avenue in that city to Tarkington Avenue, but was restrained by the protests of the property owners in the street. One of the prominent residents wrote to the Mayor, saying: "When Tarkington becomes Governor or President, it may be different."

The Japan Times contains a paragraph which will greatly interest somebody two hundred and fifty years hence. It states that the Dai-ichi Bank in Tokyo in 1890 received a deposit of 3,000 yen, which will remain fixed with accumulating interests for two hundred and fifty years, the bank having contracted to pay at the end of that time the respectable sum of 1,208,411,779 yen.

Cole Younger, one of the notorious Younger brothers, and a member of the Jesse James gang, who was released on parole after serving twenty-five years of a life sentence, was secured a pardon on certain conditions. The pardon, it is thought, was the work of some New York theatrical concern, who were anxious to have Younger appear as the leading character in one of their enterprises. A condition in the pardon prohibited him from appearing in any theatrical show, thereby felling the syndicate's idea.

Colonel Ira Ayer, the oldest special treasury agent in service, died at his home, in Brooklyn, Tuesday, at the age of sixty-seven. He was a native of Virginia, and earned his title in the Union army in the civil war. His work for the Treasury Department began in 1869. One of his special details was as statistician for the tin-plate industry, under the McKinley law. Since then he had had the honor of establishing the rate of drawback on imported merchandise when exported. A son is captain in the army, stationed at Manila.

Adjutant-General Dalton objects to being "rumored about." The Boston Herald had the story that the general proposed to retire from the service of the State in March, and he says it is not so. He knows, and will be believed.

Some of the Ingredients.

A treasury official tells us our paper money, when soiled, carries many germs, some of dangerous diseases, but that it may be cleaned with a little soap and water. Well, we'd like to say that we have the soap and water—Big Stone Gap Post.

Chesterfieldian School.

A Norfolk street car conductor inherits a fortune for having been courteous to a wealthy westerner. Now we may expect the street cars to become schools of etiquette, and the conductors Chesterfields.—Norfolk Dispatch.

Editorial Ice Factory.

Of course, Brother Lee of the Virginia Citizen, will take a sample of 4-inch ice with him to Florida, and illustrate to the denizens of the land of oranges how the freezing process was effected by a "strenuous" use of palm-leaf fans!—West Point Plain Dealer.

## An Hour With Virginia Editors

Here are some real prosperity remarks from the Lexington Gazette:

The condition of the Virginia farmer has been revolutionized in the past few years, and we like to get up and see the last two years than ever before, but the Virginia farmer is richer to-day than he has been since the war. He has better homes, better barns and more money in his pocket than ever before. All this is true of the State at large, but more especially of the tobacco planter.

The Portsmouth Star thinks there is need of a reformatory in every Virginia city, and adds:

Portsmouth has a very small proportion of youthful criminals, but nevertheless, it is a bad practice to look up even these with the view of hardened customers of male years. To do so is to turn our jails into veritable kindergartens of crime.

The Marlon Democrat observes: While the Republicans are coquetting with an international silver standard, the Democrats are carefully cultivating the confidence of business element of the country.

The Roanoke World in presenting the appeal of Admiral Dewey, the president of the Jefferson Monument Association calls upon Virginians not to be backward in responding, and adds:

"The memorial will be erected upon Virginia's threshold, as it were, and commemorating, as it does, the imperishable fame of a great Virginian, our people should take a peculiar interest in the early consummation of the movement and contribute heartily and liberally to that end."

The Clifton Forge Review speaks the sentiment of many people in the following:

"The Department of Agriculture in Virginia is becoming more and more useful every day, and much of it is due to the untiring energy of Hon. George W. Kolner, who is at its head."

The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot says: "We would not for the world seem ungrateful, but is not England protesting just a trifle too much her dear love for the United States in view of the fact that she tried to form a European coalition against the United States in 1897?"

The West Point Plain Dealer remarks: Luckily for Governor Montague, the bouquet thrown at him in Montgomery, Ala., did not prove a solar plexus.

### WISE AND OTHERWISE.

The Proper Wue.

They purchased a set of croquet, and were ready one evening to pulet. But the horrid rain of pulet. Spoiled the game for the twain. So they spooned in the parlor all duet. —Chicago Inter-Ocean.

### Few Clothes in Evidence.

"My gracious!" exclaimed Mrs. Korn-top, "here's a piece in the paper says most articles of dress and most all the money they make for clothes."

"Well, well!" replied Farmer Korn-top, who had seen the ballet in town, "that just shows they don't make much money."

### A Cockney Bull.

This is not a bad specimen of the Irish bull in London:

"I've been ever a-going ter, Maria?"

"I ain't a-going nowhere. I've bin where I'm a-going ter."—London Express.

### A Sad Outlook.

"Do you think automobile will be as popular next summer as it was last season?"

"I'm afraid not," replied the amateur Those Public Pens.

Does unkind fate decree it so  
That man of town or hearth  
Should pick the crumbs with torches,  
Strike matches on his teeth?  
—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Just after he has fed  
While fumbling for a toothpick,  
He gets a match instead?

"Your Honor," said the handwriting expert, addressing the Court, "I can swear to all the signatures of the prisoner except this one. It is asking too much to even require him to identify it."

fun come in?"—Chicago Record-Herald.

keep out of the way, and where will the Why is it when a man stays out,  
And comes in late at night,  
He always gets a toothpick when  
He tries to strike a light?

Why does it always happen,  
"Why so?" asked the Judge.  
"Because it was written with a public pen, taken from the desk at the bank," replied the expert.

Whereupon the jury as one man, nodded sympathetically.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

### THE EDITORS' TRIP

### A Large Number of Them Are Going

### Down to Florida.

A large number of the members of the Virginia Press Association will come to Richmond on Monday preparatory to the trip to Florida. Some of them will leave by the Seaboard's 2:15 train and others arriving later will take the midnight train.